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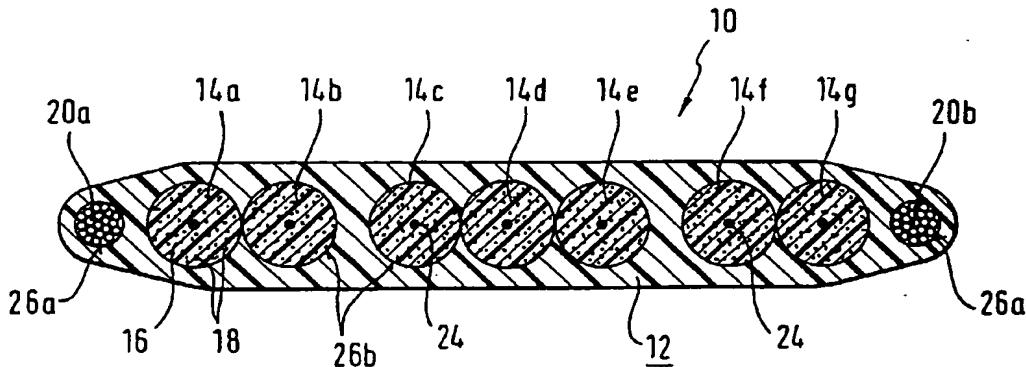
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(54) Title: COMPENSATION WEIGHTS AND ELEVATOR SYSTEMS



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(57) Abstract: The invention provides a compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of an extended cable. The compensation weighth comprises at least one carrying organ, at least one weighted element, wherein the weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and at least one of a pulverized metal salt and a pulverized metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³, and an extended flexible sheath. According to another aspect, the invention provides a compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of a flat cable. It comprises one or more weighted elements, one or more lengthily extended carrying organ, a flexible sheath, and a plurality of hollow spaces encased by said sheath for the reception of the one or more weighted elements and the one or more lengthily extended carrying organ. The at least one carrying organ and at least one weighted element are designed to be separately and respectively in different hollow spaces encased by the sheath. According to still further aspects, the invention is also directed to elevator systems with corresponding compensation weights.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

COMPENSATION WEIGHTS AND ELEVATOR SYSTEMS**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention concerns the field of elevators, more particularly compensation weights for elevator systems, as well as an elevator system with such compensation weights.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

An elevator system, generally, encompasses a car, a counterweight for said car, and also at least a carrying cable. This carrying cable is led from the top of the car over a drive and a turn-around pulley. The cable is also affixed to the top of counterweights. The elevator system moreover possesses compensation weights to balance the weight of the above carrying cable and which compensation weights are fastened to the underside of the car and hang down therefrom in loops. Under certain circumstances the compensation weights are led to a guide roll in the shaft bottom and their other ends are secured on the underside of said counterweights. In these ways, the pulling force exerted by the said drive is compensated for in any position of the car. The only variable remaining is the weight of the load to be transported, which must be overcome by the said drive.

In the case of elevator speeds of more than 3.5 m/s, the compensation weight, for the great part, is of steel cable. Upon lifting at lesser speeds, a compensation weight can be in the form of a round or flat weighted cable, i.e. a plastic cable, which encapsulates one or more carrying organs and, if required, one or more additional weighted elements.

The compensation weights predominately used at the present time are round weighted cables, which is to say, which possess a chain-like lift organ of steel in a sheath of plastic.

EP-B-0 100 583 proposes a compensation weight in cable form, which exhibits at least one lift organ in the form of a chain or wire rope. Again, the said organ will be enclosed within a sheath, the volume of which, in at least one embodiment,

ment, shows a mix of metal particles and plastic material.

In another embodiment, in the form of a flat shaped cable, the lifting organs are installed within hollow spaces, which includes, besides the stated lifting organs, also a mixture of plastic material and metal particles. Hollow spaces, which only contain plastic material and metal particulate are not described.

The lifting cable described in EP-B 0 100 583 shows, in comparison to conventional weighted cables, a higher weight per unit of length, or, for the given weight per unit of length, lesser outer dimensioning.

However, the manufacture of that kind of weighted cable is not without problems. In order to introduce the metal particulate into the plastic, which is to encapsulate them, recourse must be made to special, complex and expensive additional mechanisms and/or additional fabrication means, which, normally, are not employed in the cable industry.

Thus, in view of the above, the purpose of the invention is to create a compensation weight, which can be fabricated simply and with the conventional processing equipment of the cable industry.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of a lengthily extended cable. The compensation weight comprises at least one carrying organ, at least one weighted element, wherein the weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and at least one of a pulverized metal salt and a metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm^3 , and a lengthily extended, flexible sheath.

According to another aspect, the invention provides a compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of a lengthily extended flat cable. It comprises one or more weighted elements, one or more lengthily extended carrying organ, a lengthily extended, flexible sheath, and a plurality of hollow spaces encased by said sheath for the reception of the one or more weighted elements and the one or more length-

ily extended carrying organ. The at least one carrying organ and at least one weighted element are designed to be separately and respectively in different hollow spaces.

According to still further aspects, the invention is also directed the elevator systems with corresponding compensating weights.

Other features are inherent in the disclosed system or will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description of embodiments and its accompanying drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 a schematic cross-section through a compensation weight in the form of a round cable,

Fig. 2 a schematic cross-section through another compensation weight in the form of a round cable,

Fig. 3 a cross-section through a compensation weight formed as a flat cable,

Fig. 4 a cross-section through another embodiment of a compensation weight with integral electrical components, said compensation weight being in the form of a flat cable,

Fig. 5 a perspective view of a compensation weight, wherein the carrying organ is exposed for fastening,

Fig. 6 a half-transparent perspective view, made so on the grounds of visibility, indicating the partial removal or unwinding of an alternative weighted element, and

Fig. 7 a schematic presentation of an elevator system.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1 shows a schematic outline of a cross-section of a first embodiment of a compensation weight. Before proceeding further with the description, however, a few items of the preferred embodiments will be discussed.

The carrying organ is that particular part of the compensation weight, which carries the latter between the car and the counterweight. The weighted organ thereof has no carry-

ing function, but serves principally for adding mass to the compensation weight.

The preferred embodiments relating to the first aspect of the invention provide a compensation weight, which possesses a carrying organ. The carrying organ is normally a chain, or preferentially, a wire rope with a flexible sheath, that sheath being normally of plastic, and at least one weighted element. The weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and one or more pulverized salts of metals and/or metal chalcogenides (particularly oxides and sulfides) which should exhibit a mass density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³. The weighted element can directly envelope the carrying organ, or be employed entirely separately.

The metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide, which is used for the weighted element of the preferred embodiments of the first aspect exhibits specific densities of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³ with preferred specific densities about or greater than 3.0 g/cm³, 4.0 g/cm³ and 4.2 g/cm³. These immediately foregoing materials may, before the eventual extrusion of a composite mass, be mixed simply in a fluid mixer or double screw kneader with the plastic (optionally together with mixing in plastic additives). Thus, for example, in the case of the use of a soft-PVC as the plastic for the weighted element, the mixing operation would be carried out in one step with the treatment of PVC with a softener, a dry filler - such as chalk - a stabilizer and including the above defined metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide and mixtures thereof. This method is hardly possible in the conventional state of the technology, with metal particulate, since the mixing apparatus would be damaged thereby. Metal particulate, as well as metal powders universally exhibit, in comparison to metal salts and metal chalcogenides, definite disadvantages, among these being abrasion, higher purchase costs, and a more expensive work-up in process. The metal particulate of the prior state of the technology must be dosed to the plastic in a separate step, which increases the complexity of the process. Further, the relatively large metal particles, of the said state of the technology, lead to a grabbing or pinching of the extruder screw during the ex-

trusion about the carrying organ.

The preferred embodiments relating to the second aspect of the invention provide a compensation weight in which at least one carrying organ (preferentially, all), and at least one weighted element (preferentially all) are placed separately in different hollow spaces of the compensation weight in the form of a flat cable, which is resistant to transverse twisting. This or those weight element(s) may be the same as those mentioned above or different ones.

The separated state of the carrying organs and the weighted element enables a more flexible weight adjustment for the compensation weight. Thus, by standard dimensioning and numbering of existing carrying organs, such as a steel rope, a weight adjustment can be advantageously varied by the number and size of the weighted elements.

In consideration of the apparatuses which are employed in the cable industry, the processing is simpler, to manufacture the weighted elements separate from the carrying organs by means of extrusion, than it is to extrude each single weighted element required for the current application, and subsequently, then extrude a sheath about this intermediate product, as is the case in the state of the technology. Standardized, half-fabricated units of weighted elements can be manufactured and stored in a rational manner. The manufacture of different end-products of different weight classes is thus possible on a short time basis. This can be done in small lot sizes which is also economically advantageous.

Otherwise, by means of tandem or co-extrusion, the manufacture of the weighted elements can be combined with sheath extrusion. Several weighted elements can then be fabricated as a single block (sandwich fabrication). This is advantageous, when especially large quantities of a special compensation weight must be manufactured.

A separate inventory of carrying organs and weighted elements is also of value in the hanging of the compensation weights. For the installation of the carrying organs at the car and also on the compensation weight, the encasing plastic has to be removed only from the carrying organs (mostly two thereof, which, respectively, are placed on each side of the

flat cable). Those parts, which hold only the weight organs simply can be cut off. Further, the use of conventional cable hanging techniques on the car and the counterweight remain possible, and the manipulation of the flat cable, which is similar to flat electrical cable, is a well known procedure for the installation crews.

Since each of the two aspects of the invention is independently advantageous, there are preferred embodiments in which only the first aspect or only the second aspect is realized. However, from the point of view of economics, most preferred are embodiments which realize both aspects, since, for example, only two expensive carrying organs are needed and the remainder of required weight can be made available by a more economical plastics/metal salt and/or a chalcogenide mixture.

In the preferred embodiments, the carrying organs can include wire ropes or chains, wherein, the preference is given to wire rope. The thickness of the wire rope or the chains is to meet the individual requirements of the compensation weight. Where steel wire rope is concerned, the thickness can range from about 3 mm to about 10 mm. The material of the carrying organ is preferentially selected from steel, iron, polyamides, aramides, or carbon fiber. Of particular advantage is to make the carrying organ a steel rope, since this is heavy and at the same time, in regard to the hanging operation, is easily separated from the encompassing plastic sheath (by cutting and pulling).

In a preferred embodiment in the form of a flat cable, preferably, two carrying organs lie respectively neighboring the cross-section ends, which are curved, that is, the said two carrying organs are respectively proximal to the two extreme ends of the of the flat cable cross-section. The weighted element(s) lie in this configuration preferably in a plane between the carrying organs. In case of need, however, there can be more than two carrying organs, e.g. still another carrier present in the middle of the cable.

The flexible sheath of the compensation weight of the present invention comprises any plastic sheath as is common in the cable industry, which, preferably, can be heavily

laden with filling materials. Non-limiting examples thereof are, for instance, soft PVC, thermoplastic elastomers, polyolefin rubber, including ethylene-octane-copolymers and polyisobutylene, butyl rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers, chloro-sulfonated polyethylene, vulcanized chloroprene, fluid polymers in combination with thermoplastics, polyamides, polyurethanes, and silicon rubber and mixtures thereof. The choice directs itself to the requirements of the current application. Soft PVC is preferred because of its price and its good workability with a high content of filler (such as metal salts or metal chalcogenides - see below). One can still desire, to choose a non-chlorinated plastic. All of these plastics can be provided with customary additives.

In some of the preferred embodiments, the sheath can be caused to contain, for additional weight increase, likewise one or more metal salts and/or metal chalcogenides with a mass density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm^3 . These are not applied in too great quantities, however, so as not to undermine the mechanical characteristics of the sheath. An advantageous range for metal salts and/or metal chalcogenides would be from about 20 wt% to 40 wt%, preferably from about 20 wt% to 30 wt%, relative to the total weight of the sheath.

In this way, therefore, a sheath compounding could comprise:

- from about 20 wt% to about 30 wt% PVC,
- from about 15 wt% to about 25 wt% PVC softener,
- from about 20 wt% to about 30 wt% dry filler, such as chalk and
- from about 20 wt% to about 30 wt% metal salts/metal chalcogenides having

a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm^3 ,

as well as a total of about 2 wt% stabilizer, lubricant and other workability enhancers and, if required, fire prevention additives. All percentages, as noted, were in relation to the total weight of the sheath. The sheath can be profiled on the surface for better manipulation.

The cross-sectional dimensioning of the weighted elements, as is the case with the carrying organ, is adapted to the individual requirements of the compensation weight. For

instance, circular weighted elements utilizing barium sulfate as the material salt, with a mass density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³ with a diameter ranging from about 5 mm to about 15 mm.

The pulverized metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide of the weighted element is preferably chosen from:

- barium sulfate, natural heavy spar (barite)
density range: from about 4.25 g/cm³ to about 4.5 g/cm³
- salts and/or chalcogenides containing calcium, iron, copper, or lead
such as, for instance:
 - calcium sulfate (gypsum or anhydrite)
density range: from about 2.3 g/cm³ to about 3.0 g/cm³
 - hematite (Fe_2O_3)
density range: from about 5.5 g/cm³ to about 6.5 g/cm³
 - copper pyrites (chalcopyrite) ($CuFeS_2$)
density range: from about 4.1 g/cm³ to about 4.3 g/cm³
 - cupric oxide
density range: from about 6.3 g/cm³ to about 6.4 g/cm³
 - lead sulfate
density range: from about 6.3 g/cm³ to about 6.4 g/cm³
 - slags from blast furnaces.

Because of its low toxicity and good workability, barium sulfate is particularly advantageous. The powder form of the metal salts and/or metal chalcogenides (average particle diameter preferably from about 5 μm to about 50 μm , particularly about 10 μm) assures that these can be mixed well and uniformly into a plastic medium and that the mixture of plastic and powder also extrudes well. The content of powder material in the mixture of plastic material, metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide, for the provision of an advantageous weight, is high, preferentially ranging from about 50 wt% to

about 90 wt%, more preferably 70 wt% to about 90 wt% and especially ranging from about 80 wt% to about 90 wt%, referring to the entire weight of the weighted element.

The plastic material of the weighted element(s) can, similar to the plastic in the sheath, be any conventional one in the cable industry, which has the ability to be very highly laden with filler. In this matter we refer to all the plastics named for the sheath and additional thermoplastics with medium or low Mooney viscosities. These plastics may contain all usual additives.

The mixture of plastic/metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide, following an extrusion forming the weighted element, because of the high filler load, is frequently friable and can tend toward allowing fissure formation, especially where frequent, dynamic bending demands are exacted. This, however, presents no problem, since the weighted element is not involved in the tension of carrying the compensation weight and said fissuring takes place in the enclosed interior of the compensation weight.

A typical weighted element can comprise:

- from about 10 wt% to about 20 wt% plastic material, such as butyl rubber
- about 0.8 wt% softener and lubricating agent, and
- from about 80 wt% to about 90 wt% metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide (i.e. BaSO₄)

The weighted elements can be of any shape, such as cornered, oval, or round. The preferred shape is round.

Further, in some embodiments, the weighted elements exhibit in their middle zone, an auxiliary carrier of wire or a thin, high tensile strength, plastic thread, for instance, of aramide. This auxiliary carrier serves principally to enable an easier extrusion on the available equipment found in the cable industry.

In an additional embodiment, at least one weighted element possesses in its center an electrical line, which can serve for the monitoring of the compensation weight. Beyond this, in a compensation weight, an entire bundle of wires may be enclosed, which can serve for the input and control of various components.

In a special embodiment, there are used in a weighted element, metal cuttings, preferably steel cuttings, with a length ranging from about 0.5 cm to about 6 cm. These cuttings are made stable in shape either by being encased by extrusion or by wrapping in with films or bands. The metal raw material is available as so-called semi-finished rod or wire form. The individual weighted elements are manufactured in a continuous work-process, in which the semi-finished items are cut by high frequency or sawed and encased in plastic by extrusion or wrapping. The so produced weighted elements can be wrapped on rollers and later reworked by renewed extrusion to form the flat cable type of compensation weight.

When this occurs one or more of the weighted elements run parallel and together with the carrying organ(s) in the extrusion line for the final sheath process.

Returning now to Fig. 1, it shows in schematic outline a cross-section of a compensation weight 10 in the form of a circular, round cable, which in the middle exhibits carrying organ 20 in the form of a steel rope. This is surrounded by a weighted element 14, which is composed of a mixture of plastic material 16 and metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide 18. A plastic flexible sheath 12 envelopes the compensation weight 10.

Fig. 2 shows a cross-sectional view of a compensation weight 10, similar to that of Fig. 1, in which, however, the steel rope carrying organ is supplanted by a chain-like carrying organ 22.

Fig. 3 presents a cross section through a compensation weight 10 in the form of a flat cable. Two outside empty spaces 26a contain two carrying organs 20a, 20b in the form of steel wire ropes. Between these, lay seven hollow spaces 26b containing seven weighted elements 14a - g, which comprise a mix of plastic material 16 and metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide 18 and as well as an auxiliary carrier 24 of wire or a tear resistant plastic. The flexible sheath 12 is made of plastic 16. In total, nine hollow spaces, 26a, 26b lie in a straight line along the cross-sectional middle axis of the flat cable.

The diameter of the outer hollow spaces 26a is smaller than the diameter of the inner hollow spaces 26b. This leads to a cross sectional shape of the flat cable of a kind of rectangle with extremities which diminish in width outwardly at the two narrowing ends. A compensation weight 10 of this kind can exhibit e.g. a weight of 1.5 kg/m to 6.0 kg/m, especially when its outer sheath 16 contains likewise metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide 19 (as shown in Fig. 4).

Fig. 4 demonstrates a cross-section through another embodiment of a compensation weight 10 in the form of a flat cable. This embodiment differs from that of Fig. 3, in that here also the sheath (besides plastic 17) contains metal salt and/or metal chalcogenide 19, that the weight organs 14 possess an electrical wire 28 instead of the auxiliary carrier 24 and that further one of the weighted elements 14 (here the central one) is replaced by an electrical wire bundle 30, which is also encapsulated in the flexible sheath 12.

Fig. 5 shows a compensation weight 10, following the type of the flat cable of Fig. 3, in which, for site installation, one end of the carrying organs (steel wire ropes) 20a, 20b has been freed. The portion of the flexible sheath 12 and the weighted elements 14 which lay between, were simply cut off.

Fig. 6 shows an alternative embodiment of a weighted element 14. This is not built of a plastic-powder compound, as is the case of the weighted elements in Figs. 1 to 5. Rather it is formed by discrete weight members, especially of metal, and here constructed by cut or sawed, linearly ordered, steel wire or steel rod sections 32 and preferably enclosed in a winding or wrapping 34 to achieve shape stability. These weighted elements built up by pieces can, in the embodiments of Figs. 1 to 5, substitute in the place of the compounded weighted elements. In the case of embodiments with several weighted elements (for instance, Figs. 3 to 5), hybrids are also possible, which would include at least one weighted element from each of the two kinds.

Fig. 7 shows an elevator system in an elevator shaft 52 with a bottom located buffer 50. The system is equipped with a compensation weight 10, which is fastened to the bottom of

a car 40 and extends itself from there to the under-end of a counterweight 48 running beside the car 40, to which it is also fastened. For increasing the quiet and smoothness of the running, especially when the elevator system is beset with wind, the compensation weight 10 can be run about an optional guide roll 54 (shown in dotted line), or it can hang free in a loop in the elevator shaft. A carrying cable 42 is run from the top of the car 40 over a drive roll 44 and then over a turn-around roll 46 to the upper end of the car counterweight 48 and is secured to the upper end thereof and to the car 40. As a rule, the compensation weight 10 should essentially match the same length as that of the carrying cable 42, (whereby eventual windings or horizontal guiding of the carrying cable 42 to and about the drive 44 or the turn-around roll 46, are not considered). From the standpoint of safety, 5 or more carrier cables 42 can be furnished. A single compensation weight 10 or several parallel arranged compensation weights 10 can be provided. The weight per unit length of the compensation weight 10 should advantageously be chosen equal to the weight per unit length of the carrying cable 42, regardless of the number of cables or compensation weights. The designed adjustment of the weight can be determined by means of an appropriate choice of the weight materials, the cross-sections thereof and/or the number of the weighted elements. With such an arrangement, the situation can be achieved, wherein the load acting on the drive 44, is independent of the position of the car 40. Then, by appropriate choice of the weight of the counterweight 48 the drive 44 can be constructively adjusted, advantageously, at a zero or average loadings of car 40, which accrue from transported persons or objects. Then while operating, the drive 44 needs to lift nothing more than the said loading of the car or deviation from the average thereof.

Thus, a general purpose of the disclosed embodiments is to provide an improved compensation weight, which can be fabricated simply and with the conventional processing equipment of the cable industry.

All publications and existing systems mentioned in this specification are herein incorporated by reference.

Although certain systems, methods and products constructed in accordance with the teachings of the invention have been described herein, the scope of coverage of this patent is not limited thereto. On the contrary, this patent covers all embodiments of the teachings of the invention fairly falling within the scope of the appended claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of a lengthily extended cable, comprising:
at least one carrying organ,
at least one weighted element, wherein the weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and at least one of a pulverized metal salt and a pulverized metal chalcogenide with a density about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³,
a lengthily extended, flexible sheath.
2. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the at least one carrying organ is comprised of materials selected from the group consisting of steel, iron, polyamides, aramides, carbon fibers and mixtures thereof.
3. The compensation weight of Claim 1 wherein the at least one carrying organ is a steel rope.
4. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the cable defines at least two hollow spaces and the at least one carrying organ and the at least one weighted element are accommodated separately in the hollow spaces.
5. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein said compensation weight has curved end cross-sections and is designed as flat cable, wherein two carrying organs are arranged respectively proximal to the curved end cross-sections, and the weighted elements are placed in a plane between the two said carrying organs.
6. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the cable defines at least one hollow space and at least one carrying organ and the at least one weighted element are arranged together in the hollow space.
7. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the sheath comprises a plastic, which is selected from the group

consisting of soft PVC, thermoplastic elastomers, polyolefin rubber, including ethylene-octane copolymers and polyisobutylene, butyl rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers, chloro-sulfonated polyethylene, vulcanized chloroprene, fluid polymers in combination with thermoplastics, polyamides, polyurethanes, silicon rubber and mixtures thereof.

8. A compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the sheath comprises at least one of a metal salt and a metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm^3 .
9. The compensation weight of Claim 8, wherein the at least one of metal salts and metal chalcogenides are present in the sheath in the amount ranging from about 20 wt% to about 40 wt%, the percent relative to the entire weight of the sheath.
10. The compensation weight of Claim 8, wherein the at least one of metal salts and metal chalcogenides are present in the sheath in the amount ranging from about 20 wt% to about 30 wt%, the percent relative to the entire weight of the sheath.
11. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the weighted elements comprise a mixture of plastic material and a powder of one or more members selected from the group consisting of barium sulfate, salts containing calcium, iron, copper, lead, chalcogenides containing calcium, iron, copper, lead, and slag from blast furnaces.
12. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the mixture present in the weighted elements comprising plastic material and at least one of metal salt and metal chalcogenide comprising from about 50 wt% to about 90 wt% of at least one of metal salt and chalcogenide, in relation to the total weight of the said mixture.

13. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the plastic material is selected from the group consisting of soft PVC, thermoplastic elastomers, polyolefin rubber, including ethylene-octane copolymers and polyisobutylene, ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers, chloro-sulfonated polyethylene, vulcanized chloroprene, fluid polymers in combination with thermoplastics, polyamides, polyurethanes, silicon rubber, thermoplastic materials with low or medium Mooney viscosities, and mixtures thereof.
14. The compensation weight of Claim 1, wherein the compensation weight comprises one or more bundles of electrical wires.
15. A compensation weight for an elevator system, in the form of a lengthily extended flat cable, comprising:
one or more weighted elements,
one or more lengthily extended carrying organs,
a lengthily extended, flexible sheath,
the cable defining a plurality of hollow spaces encased by said sheath for the reception of the one or more weighted elements and the one or more lengthily extended carrying organ, wherein the at least one carrying organ and at least one weighted element are designed to be separately and respectively in different hollow spaces.
16. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the at least one carrying organ is comprised of materials selected from the group consisting of steel, iron, polyamides, aramides and carbon fibers.
17. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the at least one carrying organ is a steel rope.
18. The compensation weight of Claim 15, said compensation weight has curved end cross-sections, wherein two carrying organs are arranged respectively proximal to the curved end cross-sections, and the weighted elements are placed in a plane between said two carrying organs.

19. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the sheath contains a plastic, which is selected from soft PVC, thermoplastic elastomers, polyolefin rubber, including ethylene-octane-copolymers and polyisobutylene, butyl rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene, vulcanized chloroprene, fluid polymers in combination with thermoplastics, polyamides, polyurethanes, and silicon rubber.
20. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the sheath contains at least one of a metal salt and a metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm³.
21. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the at least one weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and at least one of a pulverized metal salt and a metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater 2.3 g/cm³.
22. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the weighted elements comprise a mixture of plastic material and a powder of one or more members selected from the group consisting of barium sulfate, salts containing calcium, iron, copper, lead, chalcogenides containing calcium, iron, copper, lead, slag from blast furnaces and mixtures thereof.
23. The compensation weight of Claim 21, wherein the plastic material is selected from the group consisting of soft PVC, thermoplastic elastomers, polyolefin rubber, including ethylene-octane copolymers and polyisobutylene, butyl rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene, vulcanized chloroprene, fluid polymers in combination with thermoplastics, polyamides, polyurethanes, silicon rubber, thermoplastic materials with low or medium Mooney viscosities and mixtures thereof.

24. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein the compensation weight comprises one or more bundles of electrical wires.
25. The compensation weight of Claim 15, wherein one or more of the weighted elements comprise one or more electrical wires arranged in their centers.
26. The compensation weight of Claim 15 wherein the weighted elements are round and comprise in their center a thin auxiliary carrier comprising wire or plastic threads with a high tensile strength.
27. The compensation weight of Claim 15 wherein the at least one weighted element contains metal bodies with a length of ranging from about 0.5 cm to about 6 cm, which are made stable in shape by being wound or sheathed with a plastic.
28. An elevator system comprising:
a car,
a carrying cable, which is guided over a drive and a turn-around roll and is connected to a counterweight,
a compensation weight, comprising:
at least one carrying organ,
at least one weighted element, wherein the weighted element contains a mixture of plastic material and at least one of a pulverized metal salt and a metal chalcogenide with a density of about or greater than 2.3 g/cm^3 ,
a lengthily extended, flexible sheath.
29. An elevator system comprising:
a car,
a carrying cable, which is guided over a drive and a turn-around roll and is connected to a counterweight,
a compensation weight in the form of a lengthily extended flat cable, comprising:

one or more weighted elements,
one or more lengthily extended carrying organs,
a lengthily extended, flexible sheath;
the flat cable defining a plurality of hollow spaces en-
cased by said sheath for receiving the one or more
weighted elements and the one or more carrying organs,
wherein the one or more carrying organs and the one or
more weighted element are received in different hollow
spaces.

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Fig. 1

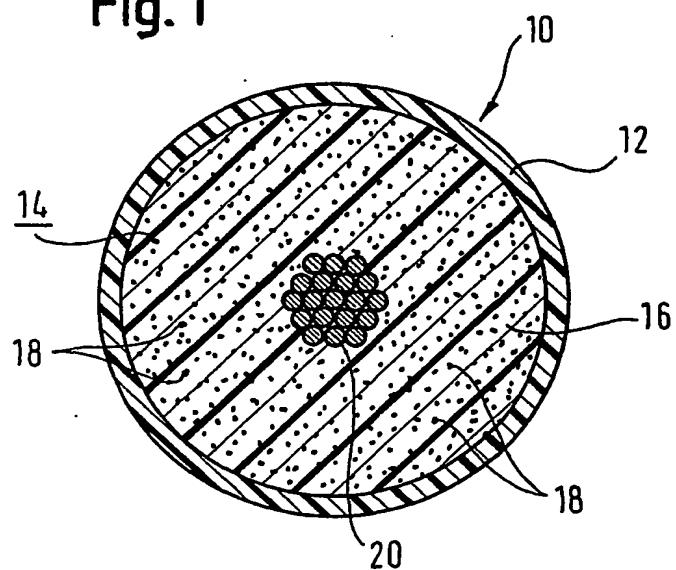
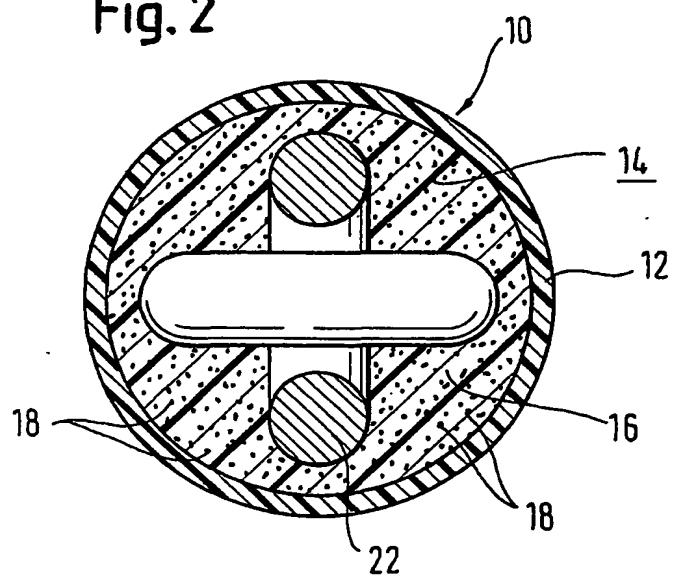
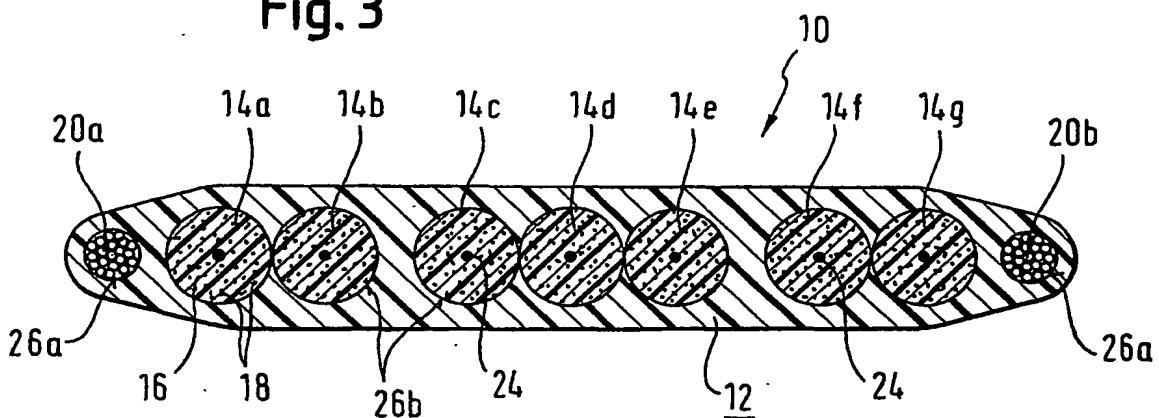
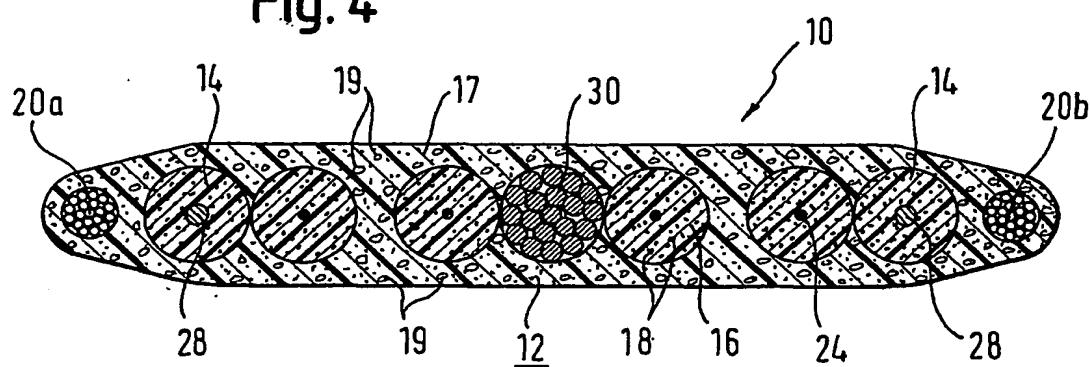
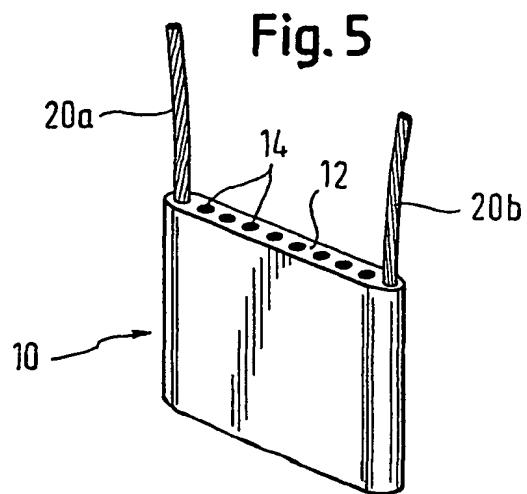


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3**Fig. 4****Fig. 5**

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Fig. 6

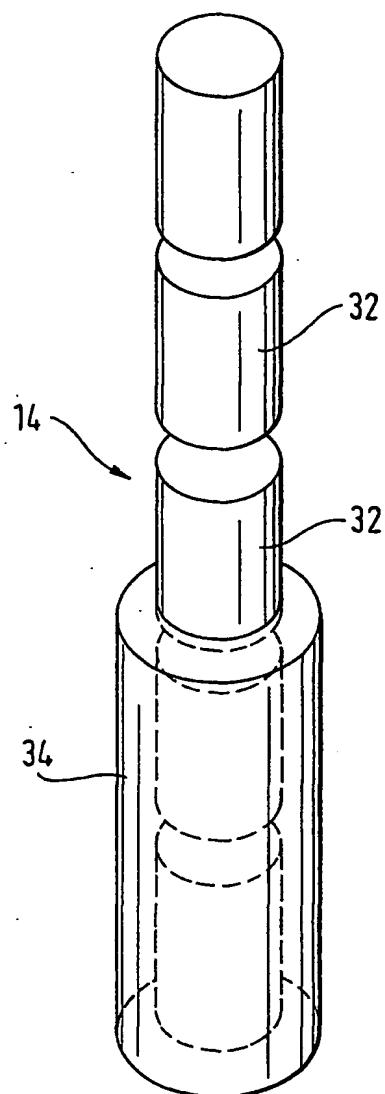
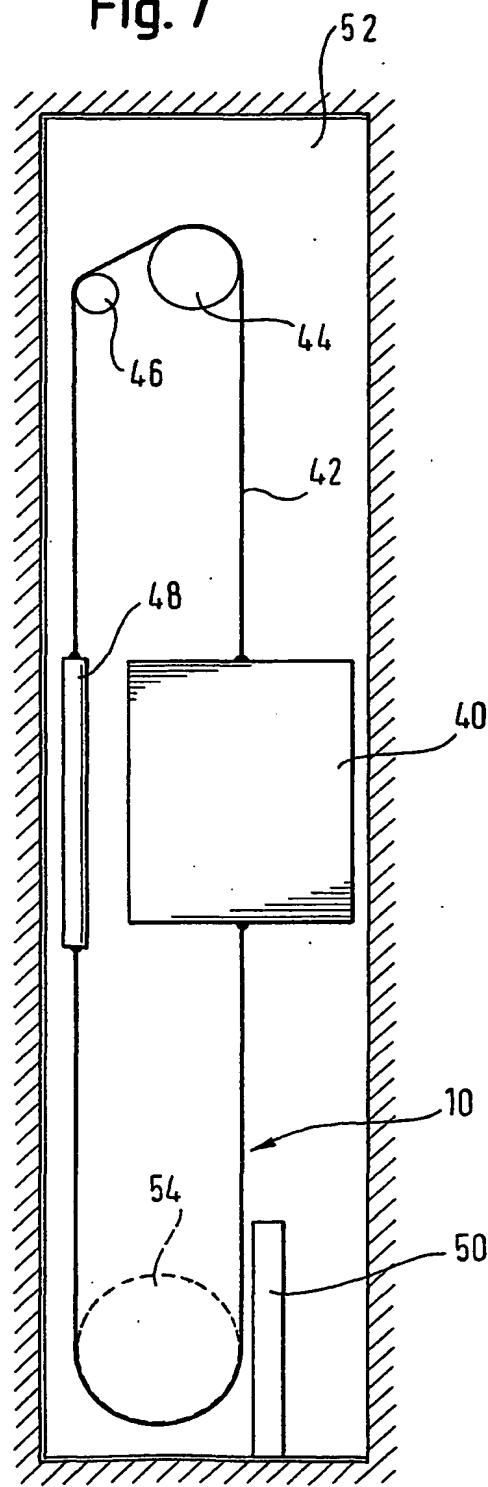


Fig. 7



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/EP 01/11885

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B66B7/06		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B66B D07B		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 664 229 A (OBST DONALD L) 12 May 1987 (1987-05-12)	15,29
A	column 3, line 39 – line 68; figures 2,4	1-14, 16-28
	column 4, line 18 – line 34	
	column 4, line 43 – line 48	
Y	US 4 716 989 A (COLEMAN JOHN D ET AL) 5 January 1988 (1988-01-05)	15,29
A	cited in the application	1-14, 16-28
	column 4, line 3 – line 27; figures 4-8	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.
<p>* Special categories of cited documents :</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
Date of the actual completion of the International search 10 January 2002		Date of mailing of the International search report 18/01/2002
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer Salvador, D

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Int	nal Application No
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